College of Charleston.

Charleston S.C. 8 Feb 1882

To

Profr. Asa Gray, Cambridge Mass

My dear Sir,

I have had an interview with the Curator of the Museum of this College, in which is deposited Elliotts Herbarium, and he says there will be no difficulty, in having access to that Herbarium, either by visiting it, or by having portions, that you may desire, sent to you.

I hoped to have had time to examine its condition and see whether insects had committed any ravages since last I made use of it or examined it. But I have not been able to find the leisure and am much pressed with work, and some anxieties. I had charge of it a few years since, and it was pretty free from insects. But in using it, I found a great many Compositae were missing, and supposed that they were in the hands of Dr. Torrey or yourself, as there were many specimens sent to you during the preparation of the two vols. of the "Flora of N.A." I do not know whether you know it, but I made the selections for you and Dr T. according to your list sent to Dr. Bachman, but he put up and sent the specimens to you. During a visit to New York in April 1871, I applied to my good friend Dr. T. to have these missing Compositae, and some other families, returned. But he said that he had them not, and he was sure that you had them not, that indeed they were all returned long ago. Where they are then I know not. Have you any idea who may have borrowed them?

I sent through Dr. T. in 1871, a photograph likeness of myself for you. Did you ever send me one of yourself? to me?

Yours very truly
Lewis R. Gibbes.

I had nearly forgotten to say, that I gave your message to my young friend Miss J. and she begs leave to send her kind regards to you, and grateful recollections of your considerate attentions to herself and party in Scotland.

The Curator of the Museum is Dr. Gabriel E. Manigault; No 6 Gibbes Street Charleston So. Ca.